Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard Educating • Protecting • Empowering Arizona Consumers



Tips to Protect Your Identity

"Prevention is the best way to stop criminals. By giving more Arizonans information about consumer fraud and resources available for help, more people will spot the red flags and protect themselves and their families."



Contact the Arizona Attorney General's Office

1275 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007 602.542.5763 400 West Congress South Building, Suite 315 Tucson, Arizona 85701-1367 520.628.6504

Outside the Phoenix or Tucson metro area 800.352.8431

www.azag.gov

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Tips to Protect Your Identity

- · Carefully review your bank and credit card statements monthly.
- Ask your credit card company to stop sending blank checks with your statements.
- Keep credit card account information and PIN numbers in a safe place and cancel credit cards that you don't use.
- Never give bank or credit card account information over the phone unless you initiated the call and know the business.
- · Order a free copy of your credit report annually and check it carefully.
- When ordering by phone or on-line, use a credit card rather that a debit card because there are greater protections with a credit card.
- Always take your credit card receipts.
- Always use a secure mailbox when mailing checks.
- Shred everything with personal identifying information before discarding.
- Delete all personal information from your computer before disposing of it.
- Remove your name from mailing lists generated by telemarketers. Contact the Direct Marketing Association at www.dmaconsumers.org.
- · Never carry your Social Security card with you.
- · Do not give your personal information in response to emails pretending to be from bank, credit card company or internet service provider. These emails are from con artists. Legitimate financial institutions will never ask for this information in email.